

Subject: Re: Bus Bench corner of Manchester and Sepulveda
From: Donald Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>
Date: 01/25/2011 11:36 AM
To: Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org>, jruhlen916 <jruhlen916@aol.com>
CC: Tracy Thomas <tthomas@coreland.com>, Miki Payne <miki@hbdrollinger.com>, Andy Loos <Andy@hbdrollinger.com>
BCC: Donald Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>

Here's what I think; I'm thinking out loud here and inviting conversation. Let's see if we can't reach a consensus.

I had no idea that Tracy felt as strongly as she indicated about the possible relocation of the bus benches to the west of the shopping center driveway, whether that would be all the way to Sepulveda Westway or not. She did say that she would keep an open mind about design solutions that we might develop to assuage her concerns.

That said, I think the reality is that any significant "best available" design solution might best come at such time as the new shopping center ownership might entertain the redevelopment of the entire property. That will be several years into the future. Let's not jump into a new time consuming priority to consider moving the bus benches or redesigning their functioning that is not well timed right now. Let's spend our time on those other priorities that we all share that have a greater possibility of success. (Perhaps we could figure out a way to get the new landscaping north of Manchester maintained; or build the Sepulveda entryway landscape improvements; or pursue other more immediately do-able projects.

If the permanent solution for the bus stop at SWC of Manchester and Sepulveda is more long-term, we still have a horrendous short-term maintenance problem. I do think we can make improvements on that, and it's important. It is a recurring theme when we survey patrons of the WTC that the area is dirty and unkept because of the perceptions that this bus stop creates.

It seems to me that the solution to the short-term problem is multi faceted. 1) Let's get some additional maintenance effort applied to the site. Cleaner would be better. 2) Let's get some additional bench space added to the site (decorative even and with overhead covers). Additional bench space would allow people waiting for the bus to all have a seat and not cluster at one point thus limiting pedestrian passage and creating a dysfunctional situation that forces people to walk in the street. 3) Decorative benches with overhead covers that matched or complimented those on Sepulveda would eliminate the stark ugliness of the current appearance where Sepulveda has nice new benches while Manchester has old ugly ones. 4) Additional BID decorative trash receptacles would increase that capacity for trash at the bus stop and perhaps reduce debris on the ground. 5) We should work with the building owners and management to make sure that

the colors that have been used at the site are optimum from a graffiti point of view and we should make sure that the BID's maintenance vendor has a supply on hand and the owner's permission to use it at the first sign of graffiti. 6) The Council Office needs to provide leadership to insure that the problem is not worsened by the addition of new bus routes / patron to this site until we have solved the problems that exist here now.

What does everybody think?

On Mon, Jan 24, 2011 at 3:50 PM, Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org> wrote:

Hey guys,

Before I talk to Shannon Eastonson. what's the consensus on the bus bench location.....east or west of the driveway?

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